

USAID Progress Activity Report

STRENGTHENING PROTECTED AREA EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT IN PERU

Project # 527-A-00-01-00157-00 under LAG-A-00-99-00048-00

Report period: January - March 2002

I. Summary of Activity Status and Progress

a. Introductory paragraph.

During this report period, the Peru Program Office (PPO) has continued working side by side with the Protected Areas agency (INRENA) and in close coordination with other agencies, projects and local NGO's to develop tools to address prevailing institutional weaknesses and conflicts within the SINANPE. Specifically, during this period INRENA approved the Natural Protected Areas Scorecard, a comprehensive matrix for monitoring management capacity. The matrix will support effective management of NPAs and will complement other monitoring tools currently being developed. Also during this period, the Paracas National Reserve (PNR) Technical Team has begun engaging in activities to update the Paracas Master Plan. In spite of a few unexpected delays, the project has been advancing successfully.

b. Highlights.

- The Scorecard for monitoring effective management of the SINANPE is complete and has been revised by NPA personnel (Chiefs and park guards), NPA Bureau Deputy Directors, and the Peruvian IUCN Committee working group (International Union for the Conservation of Nature). The PPO and INRENA have considered the contributions of each group in the revision of the Scorecard.
- The PPO and INRENA staff produced a first draft of the Overall Monitoring System, and have distributed the draft to other INRENA personnel for comment.
- The Peruvian NGO Pro Naturaleza, contracted to update the PNR Master Plan, selected and hired the Technical Team. The Technical Team has already held several workshops and begun analyzing the Paracas Master Plan, among other activities.
- The PNR Chief began the bidding process to hire the consultant that will develop the Financial and Technical Sustainability Plan for the PNR.

c. Table of Activity Status

Activity Number	Activity Title	Status	Page number for more information
1	Effective management and Monitoring System of SINANPE	Mixed-performance	
2	Land tenure issues review and conflict resolution in the SINANPE protected area network	On-track	
3	Support for strengthening the Paracas National Reserve	On-track	

II. Detailed Description of Site Progress

For each site, please include the following information.

a. Key short and long-term program objectives for the site.

Project goals will be accomplished through three main objectives:

1. Promote the effective management in all 52 protected areas within the SINANPE protected area network through the development of an overall monitoring system to gauge effective management and conservation action impact.
2. Review and resolve land tenure issues and conflicts within 5* priority protected areas of the SINANPE.
3. Support the effective management of the PNR through the update of the Master Plan that defines priority conservation and threat mitigation activities and lays down a long-term financial and technical sustainability plan.

* In the original proposal, the PPO aimed to ensure that ten protected areas have defined and demarcated boundaries, but due to complexities discovered through the priority-setting process (discussed below) this number was reduced to five.

b. Summary of Progress for Site (if this provides added value or clarity, otherwise skip this)

c. Activity Description

i. Activity Title : Effective management and Monitoring System of SINANPE

ii. Summary of major achievements and progress

- The management monitoring Scorecard for the SINANPE has been completed and validated. During these three months, the Peruvian IUCN Committee working group has met several times. This group includes representatives of the PPO, PROFONANPE (National Trust Fund for Natural Protected Areas), the *Instituto de las Montañas*, Apeco, and other specialists. INRENA itself (including personnel from both the Natural Protected Areas and Planning and Operations divisions) finished revising and approved the document.
- INRENA is now developing the Scorecard Implementation Plan and adapting annual operative plans, budgets and personnel accordingly in order to ensure that application of the Scorecard is viable.
- Based on the Scope of Work prepared by the PPO in the last reporting period, the PPO developed the preliminary framework for a Biological Monitoring System proposal, which includes criteria to select biological monitoring indicators.
- The PPO and INRENA developed an Overall Monitoring System which is being thoroughly revised by the Peruvian IUCN Committee working group. The same methodology used to develop the Scorecard is being applied to the development of this system.

iii. Table of progress in meeting key activity benchmarks

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status
1.1	Implementation of scorecard to Monitor Effective Management	
1.1.1	Validated and approved protected area management monitoring scorecard	Completed
1.1.2	Scorecard implementation plan and timetable for all SINANPE protected areas	On-track

1.1.3	Baseline data (year 2001) of all SINANPE protected areas based on scorecard application	Delayed
1.2	Biological Monitoring System Complete	
1.2.1	Completion of a set of preliminary indicator species, communities and ecological processes	On-track
1.2.2	Completion of variable and indicator monitoring protocols	Delayed
1.3	Overall Monitoring System Complete	
1.3.1	Completion of SINANPE Overall Monitoring System	On-track
1.3.2	Implementation of Overall Monitoring System and activities timetable	On-track

iv. Key management issues

- The hiring of a biological monitoring consultant has taken longer than anticipated due to a lack of applicants meeting the requirements of the Scope of Work designed for the position. In light of this difficulty, the PPO has begun to initiate project activities directly, including the design of the Biological Monitoring System proposal and preliminary identification of indicators.

i. Activity Title : Land Tenure Issues Review and Conflict Resolution in the SINANPE Protected Area Network

ii. Summary of major achievements and progress

- The PPO and INRENA revised the Strategic Plan that identifies priority protected areas within the SINANPE which will be used to resolve land tenure and boundary demarcation issues. In addition to the five selected Natural Protected Areas, six others have been selected for inscription into the public registry (Salinas and Aguada Blanca National Reserve, Bosque de Pomac Historic Sanctuary, Nor Yauyos Cochas Landscape Reserve, Pampa Galeras National Reserve, Pampas de Ayacucho Historic Sanctuary and Lachay National Reserve). The lawyer recently hired by INRENA's NPA Bureau has prepared a work plan to address this issue.

iii. Table of progress in meeting key activity benchmarks

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status
2.1	Digitalized maps and ground-truthing implementation plan of SINANPE	On-track
2.2	At least 5 protected areas have defined and demarcated boundaries	On-track
2.3	Protected area land tenure conflict resolution agreement documents	On-track
2.4	Omnibus bill final draft	On-track

iv. Key management issues

- Initially, INRENA was unable to advance with this process due to lack of legal staff. Now that the NPA Bureau has hired a lawyer, implementation of this activity will be initiated.
- During this period, heavy rains prevented the posting of boundary landmarks. Further, PNR personnel were heavily engaged in tourism control, and unable to focus on project activities. With the end of the tourist season this April, PNR staff will have more time and resources to dedicate to this activity.

i. Activity Title : Support for Strengthening of the Paracas National Reserve

ii. Summary of major achievements and progress

- Pro Naturaleza contracted the Technical Team which will update the Reserve's Master Plan. This team is composed of Biologist Luis Paz Soldan, former head of the Paracas National Reserve experienced in Natural Protected Area management; Fishing Engineer Julio Arenas, experienced in management of hydrobiological benthonics in Natural Protected Areas; and Biologist Raul Sanchez, experienced in data base production and management of Natural Protected Areas.
- To date, the Technical Team has organized four workshops with: 1) government representatives from various sectors, 2) fishermen, 3) local grassroots organizations, and 4) the tourism committee. These workshops aimed to raise awareness of the Paracas Master Plan updating and to solicit participation in working groups being formed to develop Master Plan strategies.
- The Technical Team is analyzing the current Master Plan and the mariculture activity in the Paracas National Reserve and identifying conservation objectives.
- The Technical Team hired consultants with expertise in issues related to law, tourism and archeology to provide support to the development of the Master Plan.
- The bidding process to hire the consultant that will develop the Financial Sustainability Plan has been opened, based on the Terms of Reference prepared by the PPO and revised by the Technical Team and Pronaturaleza.

iii. Table of progress in meeting key activity benchmarks

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status*
3.1	Technical Team hired	Completed
3.2	Paracas National Reserve Master Plan consulted, validated, and approved by DGANP/INRENA	On-track
3.3	Financial and Technical Sustainability Plan (FTSP) validated and approved	On-track
3.4	Paracas National Reserve Master Plan and FTSP published and disseminated	On-track

iv. Key management issues

- Administrative delays in hiring the Technical Team slowed this process. However, now that the Team is on-board, the work plan will move forward.

III. Success Stories and Other Appendices

When appropriate and possible, include one or more one-page success stories appropriate for public dissemination.